

# Blackstar<sup>®</sup>

AMPLIFICATION



## HT-5C/HT-5R /HT-5210

Owner's Manual

the sound in your head

## Introduction

Thank you for purchasing this Blackstar HT-5 amplifier. Like all our products, this amp is the result of countless hours of painstaking Research and Development by our world-class design team. Based in Northampton (UK), the Blackstar team are all experienced musicians themselves and the sole aim of the development process is to provide guitarists with products which are the ultimate tools for self-expression.

All Blackstar products are subjected to extensive laboratory and road testing to ensure that they are truly uncompromising in terms of reliability, quality and above all TONE.

If you like what you hear and want to find out more about the Blackstar range of products please visit our website at [www.blackstaramps.com](http://www.blackstaramps.com).

Thanks!

The Blackstar Team

## Features

The HT-5 is the ultimate studio and practice amp, packing all the great tone and innovative features of the award-winning HT valve pedals into a two channel, footswitchable valve amp format. The patented ISF (Infinite Shape Feature) circuit gives you infinite adjustment over the characteristics of the tone control network and takes you from the USA to the UK and anywhere in between. So now you can effectively design your own tone and finally find 'the sound in your head'.

In making the HT-5 ideally suited to home and studio use, the aim was to develop a valve amp which sounded full and toneful even at the lowest volume level. With this in mind the Blackstar design team designed a brand new valve power amplifier topology. The HT-5 power amplifier is a low powered push-pull design which produces the crunch and break-up characteristics of a traditional 100W output stage but at a much lower volume. This is achieved by the use of a 12BH7 dual triode in push-pull configuration producing 5 Watts output, which is rich in valve harmonics and compression.

The HT-5 also has a fully specified stereo speaker emulated output which further enhances the studio credentials and allows any guitarist to get amazing valve tone straight to tape or disk, or through headphones. It also features the unique 4x12/1x12 voicing switch allowing you to change the tonal characteristics of the emulated signal between two emulated cabinet types.

The stereo speaker emulated output can be used at the same time as the internal speaker/extension cab, providing headphone free monitoring or the choice to blend a mic'd speaker and emulated signal together for unrivalled usability when recording at home or in the studio. In addition the speaker output can be turned off for 'silent' practice or recording.

Add to this an effects loop with switchable level, 16Ω and 8Ω speaker outputs which allow you to run the amp into an external speaker cabinet of your choice, a stereo MP3/Line in allowing you to jam along to your favourite tracks and you have everything you need for recording or practising.

## Front Panel

### 1. Input

Plug your guitar in here. Always use a good quality screened guitar lead.

### 2. Clean Volume

This controls the volume of the Clean Channel. Turning it clockwise increases the volume.

### 3. Clean Tone

The Tone control allows adjustment of the balance between treble and bass frequencies within the sound. At low settings (counter clockwise) the sound will be warmer and darker in character. As the Tone control is rotated clockwise the sound will become brighter.

### 4. Overdrive Select

Press this switch to select the Overdrive Channel.

### 5. Overdrive Indicator

When the red LED is on the Overdrive Channel is selected. When the LED is off the Clean Channel is in operation.

### 6. Overdrive Gain

The Gain control adjusts the amount of the Overdrive Channel's overdrive or distortion. Low settings, counter clockwise (CCW), will deliver a clean sound on the edge of break-up. As the Gain control is increased clockwise (CW) the sound will become more overdriven moving through crunch tones until, at its maximum position, a full distorted lead tone is arrived at.

### 7. Overdrive Volume

This controls the volume of the Overdrive Channel. Turning it clockwise increases the volume.

### 8. Bass (OD Channel)

The Bass control adjusts the amount of low end frequencies in your tone. This amp has an advanced tone shaping circuit which allows the tone to be tight and cutting, (CCW), to warm and thumping (CW).

### 9. Middle (OD Channel)

The Middle control adjusts the amount of middle frequencies in your tone. The middle frequencies are particularly important in setting the amount of 'body' your tone has. With the Middle control set to its minimum position (fully CCW) the sound will be aggressive and scooped, a tone ideal for aggressive rhythm playing. As the Middle control is increased (CW) the amount of 'body' is increased, which is more suitable for sustained lead guitar tones.

### 10. Treble (OD Channel)

The Treble control allows exact adjustment of the treble frequencies within the sound. At low settings (CCW) the sound will be warm and darker in character. As the Treble control is increased (CW) the sound will become brighter. At the maximum settings the sound will be aggressive and cutting.

### 11. ISF (Infinite Shape Feature)

The ISF control works in conjunction with the Bass, Middle and Treble controls. It allows you to choose the exact tonal signature you prefer. Fully CCW has a more American characteristic with a tight bottom end and more aggressive middle, and fully CW has a British characteristic which is more 'woody' and less aggressive.

### 12. Reverb (HT-5R, HT-5RH and HT-5210 only)

The reverb control sets the overall level of the reverb effect. With the control fully counter clockwise there will be no reverb. Turning the control clockwise will increase the amount of reverb. The HT-5R, HT-5RH and HT-5210 feature digital reverb found on the HT Venue Series and HT-1R, adding a rich depth to any playing style.

### 13. Power Indicator Light

The power indicator will light when the amplifier is switched on.

### 14. Standby

This switch enables the operation of the power amp stage and speaker output. Always turn this on at least 30 seconds after the Power switch (15). For silent recording or practise this switch should be put in the standby position. This will disable the power stage, but the emulated output will continue to work.

### 15. Power

This switch is used to turn the amplifier on and off. You should always turn this switch on before turning on the Standby switch (14).

## Rear Panel

### 1. Mains Input

The supplied detachable mains lead is connected here. The lead should only be connected to a power outlet that is compatible with the voltage, power and frequency requirements stated on the rear panel. If in doubt get advice from a qualified technician.

### 2. Speaker Outputs

**For the HT-5210** the output marked '1x16 Ohm' is for the connection of a single 16 Ohm external speaker cabinet. The outputs marked '1x8 Ohm or 2x16 Ohm' are for

the connection of either a single 8 Ohm extension cabinet, the internal loudspeakers of the HT-5210, or two 16 Ohm extension cabinets. The internal loudspeakers of the HT-5210 should not be used together with an extension cabinet. See table below.

HT-5210 Speaker Table	'1x16 Ohm' output	'1x8 Ohm or 2x16 Ohm' outputs	
Internal 8 Ohm speakers	X	✓	X
Two 16 Ohm extension cabinets	X	✓	✓
One 16 Ohm extension cabinet	✓	X	X
One 8 Ohm extension cabinet	X	✓	X

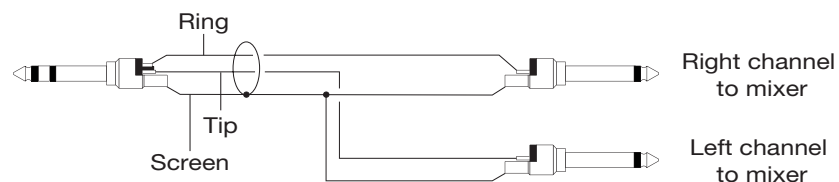
**For all other amplifiers in the HT-5 range** the output marked '1x16 Ohm' is for the connection of a single 16 Ohm extension cabinet or the internal loudspeaker of an HT-5 combo. The outputs marked '1x8 Ohm or 2x16 Ohm' are for the connection of either a single 8 Ohm extension cabinet or two 16 Ohm cabinets. Also, the internal loudspeaker of the HT-5 combo can be plugged in here if it is used with a 16 Ohm extension cabinet. See table below.

HT-5 Range Speaker Table	'1x16 Ohm' output	'1x8 Ohm or 2x16 Ohm' outputs	
Internal 16 Ohm combo speaker	✓	X	X
Internal 16 Ohm combo speaker and one 16 Ohm extension cabinet	X	✓	✓
Two 16 Ohm extension cabinets	X	✓	✓
Single 8 Ohm extension cabinet	X	✓	X

**WARNING:** The output marked '1x16 Ohm' should never be used at the same time as either of the outputs marked '1x8 Ohm or 2x16 Ohm'.

### 3. Speaker Emulated Output & Headphones

This output emulates the tonal characteristics of a guitar speaker cabinet and provides a natural valve overdrive tone for connection to a recording device or mixing desk, and for use with headphones. To make full use of the stereo reverb, use a stereo jack to two mono jacks splitter lead to feed two channels of the recording device or mixer (see diagram below). The output will also function into a mono guitar type lead. Always use a good quality screened lead.



### 4. Cabinet Switch

The switch enables you to select either a 4x12 closed back or a 1x12 open back cabinet emulation for the Speaker Emulated Output.

### 5. Footswitch

The supplied footswitch is connected here. The footswitch enables you to switch between the Clean and Overdrive channels. The Overdrive Select Switch (4) on the amplifier must be depressed to allow the footswitch to work.

### 6. Effects Loop Send

Connect the (mono) input of an external effects unit here.

### 7. Effects Loop Return

Connect the (mono) output of an external effects unit here.

### 8. Effects Loop Level

The Effect Loop Level switch sets the effects loop to either +4dBV/-10dBV, which enables you to use it with either professional equipment (+4dBV setting), or with guitar level effects such as effects pedals (-10dBV setting).

### 9. MP3/Line Input

Connect the output of your MP3 or CD player here. Adjust the player's volume to match that of your guitar to enable you to play along.

**Note:** The connection is stereo.

## Technical Specification

### HT-5C/HT-5R Combo

**Power (RMS):** 5 Watts

**Valves:** 1 x ECC83, 1 x 12BH7

**Weight (kg):** 12.3

**Dimensions (mm):** 444 x 237 x 400

**Footswitch:** FS-4 supplied

### HT-5RH Head

**Power (RMS):** 5 Watts

**Valves:** 1 x ECC83, 1 x 12BH7

**Weight (kg):** 7.5

**Dimensions (mm):** 443 x 229 x 228

**Footswitch:** FS-4 supplied

### HT-112 Extension Cabinet

**Power Rating (RMS):** 50 Watts

**Impedance:** 16 Ohms

**Speaker:** 1 x 12" Blackbird 50 custom designed by Blackstar Amplification

**Weight (kg):** 10.7

**Dimensions (mm):** 443 x 249 x 444

### HT-5210 Combo

**Power (RMS):** 5 Watts

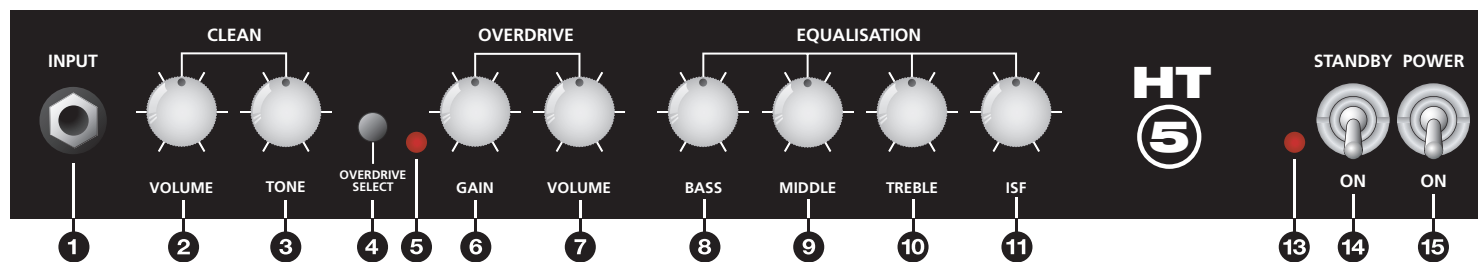
**Valves:** 1 x ECC83, 1 x 12BH7

**Weight (kg):** 17

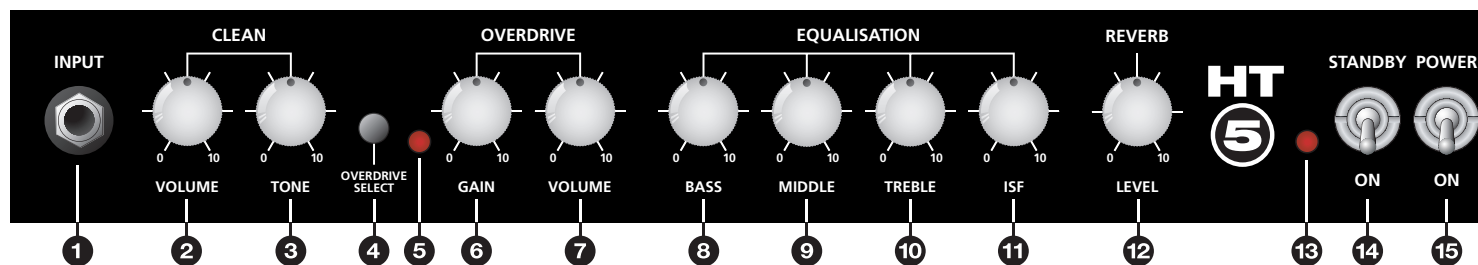
**Dimensions (mm):** 577 x 237 x 470

**Footswitch:** FS-9 supplied

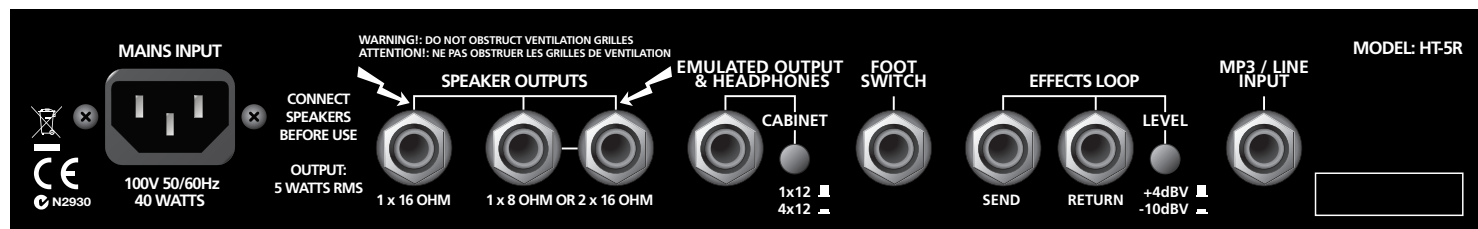
## HT-5C Combo Front Panel



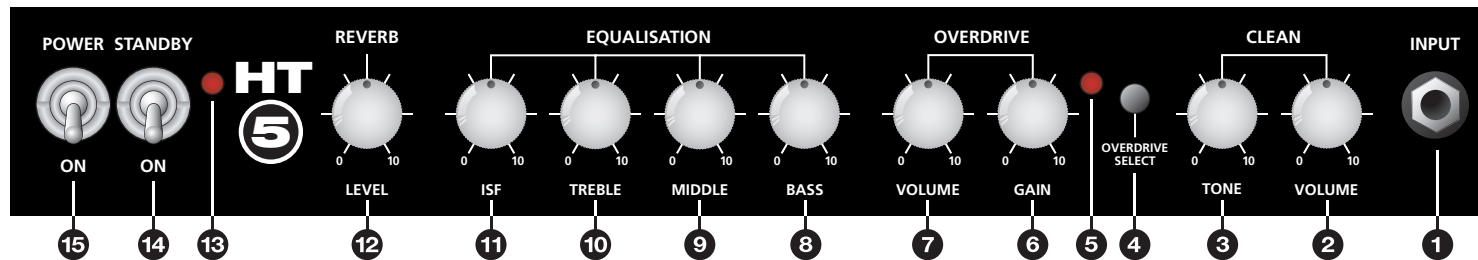
## HT-5R Combo Front Panel



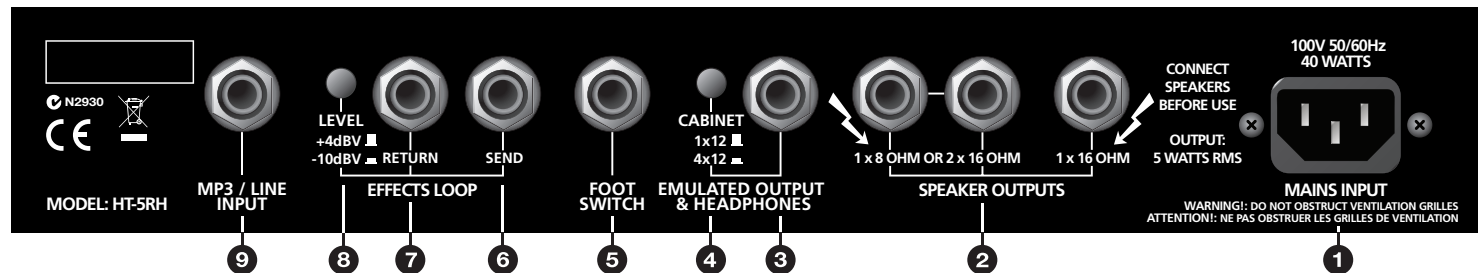
## HT-5R Combo Rear Panel



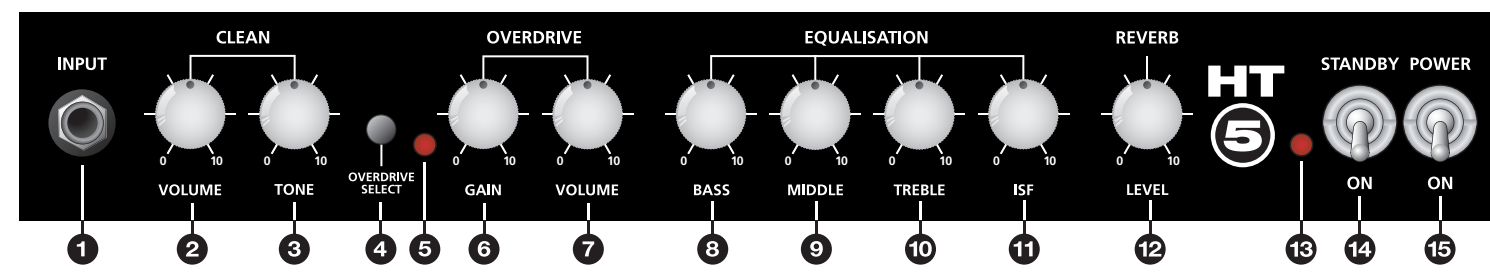
## HT-5RH Head Front Panel



## HT-5RH Head Rear Panel



HT-5210 Front Panel



HT-5210 Rear Panel

